

Guns in the U.S.: For every criminal killed in self-defense, 34 innocent people die

By Christopher Ingraham, Washington Post

“The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is with a good guy with a gun.” says Wayne LaPierre, the vice president of the National Rifle Association.

That’s become the kernel of the NRA’s response to recent mass shooting tragedies – if only more people carried guns for protection, the thinking goes, then they would be less likely to be victimized by gun-wielding criminals.

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The challenge to that argument is that, data show, guns are rarely used in self-defense – especially relative to the rate at which they’re used in criminal homicides or suicides.

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